



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

15 FEBRUARY 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Davis – Arrest Made After Vandalism at Davis Mosque

(U) Authorities say a 30-year-old woman is being charged with hate crimes after police say she broke windows and left bacon at a Northern California mosque. The Yolo County District Attorney's Office announced the arrest of Lauren Kirk-Coehlo of Davis yesterday. She is charged in the vandalism of the Davis Islamic Center last month. The vandal broke six windows and two bicycles and put bacon strips on door handles. Earlier this month in the region, Roseville's Tarbiya Institute was spray-painted with obscene and racist slurs, including "Muslim out."

SOURCE: 14 February 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Los Angeles – Friend of San Bernardino Shooter to Plead Guilty

(U) A California man accused of buying assault-style rifles used by a married couple to massacre 14 people in San Bernardino in 2015 has agreed to plead guilty to providing material support to terrorists, prosecutors said yesterday. Enrique Marquez, 25, will plead guilty to conspiring with Syed Rizwan Farook in 2011 and 2012 to attack a community college and commuters on a Southern California freeway, prosecutors said. Marquez, a friend and former neighbor of Farook, has also agreed to plead guilty to making false statements about his purchase of two assault rifles used in the shooting rampage at the San Bernardino Inland Regional Center.

SOURCE: 13 February 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Sacramento – Hacker Convicted of Stealing More Than 100,000 American Express Accounts

(U) A federal jury in Sacramento has convicted a hacker accused of breaking into more than 100,000 American Express accounts and handing off funds to Russia. Mihran Melkonyan was found guilty yesterday of 26 counts of wire and mail fraud. Prosecutors say Melkonyan and two other defendants compromised the American Express accounts of 119,000 customers all over the US, making odd with \$300,000 and \$400,000 through phony online businesses created with identities stolen from Sacramento-area high school students.

SOURCE: 15 February 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Massachusetts – Man Pleads Guilty to Making Threats Against Boston Mosque

(U) Boston – A Massachusetts man has pleaded guilty to threatening to burn down New England's largest mosque and making other threats against Muslims. Patrick Keogan entered guilty pleas yesterday to four federal charges, including threatening to injure and intimidate another person and to damage and destroy a building. Prosecutors say Keogan posted an image depicting a mosque in flames on the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center's Facebook page in 2015 with the message: "Burn your local mosque."

SOURCE: 14 February 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) New York – Federal Officer Attempted to Help Drug Smugglers at JFK Airport

(U) New York – A US Customs and Border Protection officer tried to help two drug couriers sneak about 100 pounds of cocaine past screeners at Kennedy Airport, federal authorities said in court papers. A criminal complaint, newly unsealed in federal court in Brooklyn, charges Fernando Marte with drug-smuggling conspiracy. Marte was in custody yesterday following his arrest last week. Marte was on duty and in uniform when the couriers — a man and a woman traveling on a JetBlue flight from the Dominican Republic — arrived at JFK with two carry-on suitcases, according to court papers. Security video shows Marte greeting the pair, escorting them past a primary inspection point and into the baggage claim area to get a cart for their bags, the papers say. Once they reached a secondary inspection point, Marte spoke to other customs officers there, investigators said.

SOURCE: 14 February 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Bangladesh – Police Kill Militant Linked to Café Attack

(U) Dhaka – Bangladesh police yesterday shot dead a suspected militant commander and a close aide of the mastermind of the cafe attack last year that killed 22 people, mostly foreigners, a police official said. Police said Abu Musa, 32, was a close associate of Jahangir Alam, one of the masterminds of the July attack who was arrested last month, and wanted for killings of religious minorities and a Japanese citizen in the northern region. Alam not been formally charged.

SOURCE: 14 February 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Italy – Italian Court Convicts Couple in ISIL Attack Plot

(U) Milan – An Italian court has convicted a Moroccan-born man and his wife on charges of international terrorism in connection with an Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) plot to carry out attacks in Rome during the Holy Year in 2016. A court in Milan yesterday convicted Abderrahim Moutaharrik, and his wife, Salma Bencharki, and sentenced them to six years and five years in jail, respectively. Prosecutors say Moutaharrik, who had taken Italian citizenship, had received orders from ISIL to carry out attacks in Italy, particularly in Rome, last year. Authorities characterized the plot as serious but not imminent at the time of their arrest last April.

SOURCE: 14 February 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-874-1100.

Warning: This document is the exclusive property of the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code Sec. 6250-6270). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with STAC policy relating to U//FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized STAC official. No portion of this report should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form.

This document contains excerpts of suspicious activities and incidents of interest to the STAC as obtained from open and unclassified sources.